

## **DPDF – Project Group Minutes 11 August 2008**

### **Present**

Terry Quinn  
Marta Hancock  
Roy Holmes  
Janet Warner  
Judi Bateman  
Nancy Pountain  
Angela Neill  
Christine Yates  
Andy Finley  
Peter Maidens  
Councillor M Hird  
Sue Manley - Placemarque  
Helen Oakes – DCC  
Ann Webster – DCC  
Mick Watts – DCC

### **Apologies**

Jon Eccarius  
Ray Mather  
Pat Fletcher  
Trevor Ford  
Marian Edge

### **Derby Wayfinding & Public Art Masterplan Presentation**

Members received a presentation on the Derby Wayfinding & Public Art Masterplan by the Council's consultants Placemarque. The consultants suggested that the masterplan should have three key themes:

- City vision – This theme aims to reinforce and link the image of the City, and highlight the existing character and grain.
- Hidden river – This concept relates to the River Derwent's role in shaping the City.
- City space – The masterplan highlights a number of key spaces to celebrate in the City.

The presentation covered different types of signage and mapping styles also featured were examples of public art throughout the UK and beyond.

Members commented how important the relationship was on public signs between sign height, colour contrast and font size. Sign locations needed to follow a logical route and focus on pedestrians not vehicles. The location of signs themselves in the public realm was also an important consideration.

It was intended in late September to trial a number of the signs in the City Centre, it was agreed that details of the trials would be given to group members so that feedback on their suitability for disabled people could be assessed.

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

Agreed

### **Matters arising**

Mick confirmed that he had visited the Spot taxi rank and assessed the options for raising the kerb to provide improved taxi ramp gradient. Unfortunately, currently it was not possible to raise the kerb but there might be some scope for adjustments if and when alterations were undertaken to the adjacent Westfield Derby entrance.

The same issue at the railway station had been raised with the station infrastructure working group and Mick would continue to press for change.

The same problem at the crematorium had not yet been investigated.

It was agreed that Mick would establish the current position in relation to the Castleward proposals particularly in relation to the shared space element.

Mick confirmed that in partnership with Janet a letter had been sent to all the traders in the Nottingham Road district centre whose premises had a stepped approach. The letter encouraged them to contact Mick for advice in relation to accessibility improvements. An update would be provided at the next meeting.

### **Full Street corridor improvements**

Members discussed Cityscape's proposals in relation to public realm work Queen Street, Full Street, Corporation Street and the Morledge, known as the Full Street corridor.

Members again raised concerns about the shared space proposals for part of Full Street and Corporation Street. The point was made that the principle of shared space had not been agreed by local disabled people. Until the principle of shared space streets had been investigated further and site visits undertaken to assess some existing schemes members felt it was not possible to agree or support its use in Derby.

Concern was also expressed about the proposed number of disabled people parking bays in the corridor. Members felt that the six adjacent the Council House was a serious underprovision considering the needs of disabled employees and visitors.

Footway and carriageway material selection was also key to the accessibility of the proposals. Members reiterated their concern about the use of sett type material. More detailed information on proposed materials and their use would be required before further comment could be made. Mick confirmed that he had made extensive comments about the corridor proposals which would be detailed in the project consultants report.

### **Shared space update**

Mick had circulated a part copy of the Manual for Streets which detailed issues in relation to shared space. The manual recognises that shared space can cause problems for some disabled people particularly people with cognitive difficulties and visually impaired people. The guidance recognises in many instances a protected space with appropriate physical demarcation will need to be provided. Shared space subject to addressing the issues for vulnerable users can work well:

- In short lengths, or where they form cul-de-sacs
- Where the volume of motor traffic is below 100 vehicles per hour
- Where parking is controlled or it takes place in designated bays

Members felt that the parameters detailed in the guidance appeared reasonable and would need to be one of the important considerations when evaluating the suitability of shared space in the public realm.

### **Disability Discrimination – Guidance for Arriva drivers**

Mick had circulated the above publication for member's information. The publication details that powered scooters should not be allowed on the bus, this is not the case. Scooters are allowed on buses if they can manoeuvre into and 'dock' with the designated wheelchair space. Members commented that as was revealed at the recent bus inspection this docking operation was difficult in not impossible for many powered scooters.

### **Any other business**

Nancy commented that she had some concerns about the absence of audible indication at controlled crossings. Mick commented that the use of audible crossing indication was limited by national guidance. It was understood that audible indication could only be used where crossing the carriageway could be completed in one manoeuvre. Crossings with a central refuge could not have audible indication. Mick would check this out.

Nancy said that she had concerns about two crossings in particular they were the Harvey Road crossing adjacent the Blue Peter pub, and one adjacent Aspen Drive, Spondon.

Mick informed members that a Quad visit had been organised for 2:00pm on 8 September 2008, meet at the Big Screen.

### **Date, time and place of next meeting**

20 October 2008, 2:00pm Meeting Room 2, Council house